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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

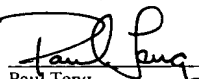
Application of: Takayuki ABE and Shigeru WATANABE

Serial No.: 10/517,102

Date Filed: December 7, 2004

For: MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING APPARATUS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
Paul Teng  
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January 4, 2005  
Date

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to the applicant's duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, and that such art be made of record in said application.

This application is a national stage filing under 35 U.S.C. §371 of International Application No. PCT/JP03/07126. Several of the references listed on the annexed Form PTO-1449 were cited in the International Search Report, a copy of which was submitted concurrently with the application on December 7, 2004.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped,

however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

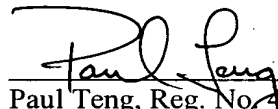
The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

According to the August 5, 2003 OG Notice published by the Patent and Trademark Office, the Office has waived the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each cited U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international application that have entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 after June 30, 2003.

Accordingly, copies are submitted herewith for only references listed on the annexed Form PTO-1449 that are not a U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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<b>Form PTO-1449</b>		<b>U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office</b>			<b>Atty. Docket No.</b> <b>1141/73569</b>		<b>Serial No.</b> <b>10/517,102</b>							
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)					<b>Applicants:</b> Takayuki ABE et al.									
					<b>Filing Date:</b> Herewith		<b>Group Art Unit:</b>							
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>														
<b>Examiner Initial</b>		<b>Document Number</b>							<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Subclass</b>	<b>Filing Date if Appropriate</b>	
		6	4	5	9	2	6	4	10-1-2002	Fain et al.				
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>														
		<b>Document Number</b>							<b>Date</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Subclass</b>	<b>Translation</b>	
													<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
	JP	20	01	-2	7	6	0	1	6	10-9-2001	Japan		Abstract	
	WO	0	2/	0	4	9	7	0	A1	1-17-2002	PCT			
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>														
		W. Kessler et al. (1998) "Coronary Arteries: Three-dimensional Breath-Hold MR Angiography Using a Gadolinium-Enhanced Ultrafast Gradient-Echo Technique, ISMRM, pg. 315.												
<b>EXAMINER</b>										<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>				
<b>*EXAMINER:</b> Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.														